

Appn. Number: 08/580,493

**REMARKS**

Applicant thanks again the Examiner very much for the constructive assistance and suggestions he provides pursuant to M.P.E.P. §707.07 (j). All changes he suggested for claims 3-18 in the last Office Action mailed 2000, January 14 have been adopted. Claim 12 has been just further limited so that Coffman, Ditto or Pappas could not be read on it.

**QA issue #1**

Drawing(s) showing the subject matter of claims 12-14 and claim 15 need to be improved according to the subject matter disclosed in the original specification. Improvement is underway. Regarding claim 15, two good US words have been found for translating correctly from the French original specification the term "étrier". This term must be translated by "shackle" or "clevis". So word "craddle-stirup" on page 10, lines 31 and 32, must be replaced by either of "shackle" or "clevis". With this information, it is hoped that the Examiner will be in a better position to understand the drawing that has been submitted for supporting claim 15.

Anyway, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.111 (b), applicant requests that objections and requirements as to form not necessary to further consideration of claims 3-15 and 17-18 be held in abeyance until allowable matter is definitely indicated in these claims.

**QA issue #2**

Correction of substitute specification has been started. But emphasis is first put on correction of drawings. Besides a new version of sheets 1 and 2 of the drawings have been submitted for approval to both the Examiner and the Chief Draftsperson.

**QA issue #3**

Appropriate amendment of claim 16 is submitted.

**QA issue #4**

Claims 3-18 have been amended according to the suggestions made in the last Office Action mailed 2000, January 14. Claim 12 has been just further limited so that Coffman, Ditto or Pappas could not be read on it. Favorable reconsideration is petitioned with deference.

Applicant thanks in advance the Examiner for any further constructive assistance pursuant to M.P.E.P. §707.07 (j).

Very Respectfully submitted.

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